

who kindly examined a copy of Molina's 1776 edition for me, states that no binomial names are used in it. On this basis, the animal should be known as *Vizcacia viscaccica* (Brandis).—James A. G. Rehn.

An older Name for the Norway Rat.

Erxleben ('Systema Regni Animalis', p. 381, 1777), applied the name *Mus norvegicus* to the rat which was named *decumanus* by Pallas one year later; accordingly it should replace the latter name.—James A. G. Rehn.

On the recent Occurrence of the Black Rat in Boston, Massachusetts.

Under date of July 11, 1900, Mr. Frank Blake Webster, of Hyde Park, Mass., wrote me as follows: "About a year ago, a young man who lived in Boston said there were black rats in a store there. We had him obtain a specimen, which was mounted, and which we still have. During the many years that I have been engaged in business in the city of Boston I have never seen one". The specimen was sent to me and identified as *Mus rattus* by Doctor J. A. Allen and myself.—Edgar A. Mearns.

Note on *Dipodomys Montanus* Baird.

Among the mammal types treasured in the collection of the United States National Museum is the type of Baird's *Dipodomys montanus*, originally described in the Proceedings of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, in 1855, but figured and more fully elaborated in that author's Mammals of North America, published in 1857. This well-marked species proves on comparison to be strictly identical with *Dipodomys elator* Merriam, named and described in the Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington, in 1894, from specimens taken at Henrietta, Clay Co., Texas, about 450 miles southeast of Fort Massachusetts. The synonymy of *Dipodomys montanus* will therefore be as follows:

Dipodomys montanus Baird, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., April, 1855, p. 334 (Fort Massachusetts).

Dipodomys ordii var. *montanus* Baird, Mamm. North America, 1857, pp. 410, 411, 757, 762, pl. lxxxiii, fig. 4, *a*, *b*, *c* (teeth of type—No. $\frac{1631}{490}$, a youngish adult). Type collected by Captain E. G. Beckwith, near Fort Massachusetts ("N. M.—On head of Rio Grande, in San Luis valley. Altitude, 8,365 feet. Latitude, 37° 32'; longitude, 105° 23'").

Dipodomys elator Merriam, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., Vol. ix, p. 109, June 21, 1894 (type from Henrietta, Clay Co., Texas).

Edgar A. Mearns.